SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

SUITE 800

1850 M STREET, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036

TELEPHONE (202) 659-28)1 FACSIMILE (202) 263-4329

WEBSITE: www.sgrlaw.com

ESTABLISHED 1893

FLORIDA OFFICE

SUITE 2200, BANK OF AMERICA TOWER 50 NORTH LAURA STREET JACKSONVILLE, FL 32202

TELEPHONE (904) 358-2222

FACSIMILE (904) 358-340

January 3, 2001

Asst. Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Inventor(s): Hirofumi Sakaue et al.

REAR GATE OPENING AND CLOSING APPARATUS FOR VEHICLE

Attorney Docket No.: 32405W061

Sir:

ATLANTA OFFICE

SUITE 3100, PROMENADE II

1230 PEACHTREE STREET, N.E.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30309-3592

TELEPHONE

(404) 815-3500

FACSIMILE (404) 815-3509

კc**803**

Transmitted herewith for filing are the following:

New patent application including 28 pages of text, 11 sheets of formal drawings, signed Declaration, signed Assignment and Recordation Cover Sheet, Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449 with attached documents, Claim for Priority and a check for \$750.00.

Counsel's check for the fee which has been calculated as shown below.

Basic Fee Assignment Fee \$ 710.00

\$ 40.00

TOTAL:

\$ 750.00

If any additional fees associated with this communication are required, please notify the undersigned attorney by telephone and charge the fees to Deposit Account 02-4300.

Asst. Commissioner of Patents January 3, 2001 Page 2

This includes, for example, any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert G. Weilacher

Reg. No. 20,531